

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS

Title 40: Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

Part 2: Wildlife

Part 2, Chapter 1: Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

RULE 1.12 MAHANNAH WMA REGULATIONS.

A. Regulations for Mahannah Wildlife Management Area in Issaquena and Warren Counties.

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see BAG LIMITS, DEER DATA COLLECTION, DEER HUNTING PERMITS, LEGAL BUCKS, SPECIAL BUCK TAGS, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery – Permit Only	Oct. 1	Oct. 16	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Primitive Weapon – Permit Only	Oct. 18	Nov. 11	Antlerless deer and legal bucks
Youth Gun	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun - Permit Only	Nov. 12	Dec. 9	Antlerless deer and Legal bucks.
Special Primitive Weapon – Permit Only	Dec. 9	Dec. 13	Legal bucks only.
Special Gun – Permit Only	Dec. 14 Dec. 26	Dec. 18 Dec. 30	Legal bucks only.
Archery/ Youth Gun	Dec. 31	Jan. 13	Legal bucks only.
TURKEY	Season Closed		See Turkey HUNTING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Sept. 26	Sept. 26	
SQUIRREL	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Saturdays only.
SQUIRREL & RABBIT	Oct. 11 Nov. 21 Dec. 5	Oct. 31 Nov. 21 Dec. 5	Saturdays only. Saturdays only.

	Nov. 25 Dec. 19 Dec. 31	Nov. 28 Dec. 25 Feb. 28	Daily. Daily. Daily.
SQUIRREL	May 15	June 1	Daily.
RACCOON	Jul. 1	Sep. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM & BOBCAT	Oct. 2 Nov. 20 Nov. 24 Dec. 4 Dec. 18 Dec. 30	Oct. 30 Nov. 20 Nov. 27 Dec. 4 Dec. 24 Feb. 28	Friday nights only. Daily. Daily. Daily.
TRAPPING	Jan. 1	Feb. 28	
WATERFOWL - Permit Only - Except for youth waterfowl hunts, the September teal season, and the post season light goose conservation order.	See Federal Regulations.		See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
YOUTH WATERFOWL	Open concurrent with the statewide Youth Waterfowl Season		See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
POST SEASON LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER	Open after waterfowl season. See Federal Regulations.		
QUAIL	Nov. 26 Dec. 5 Dec. 19 Dec. 31	Nov. 28 Dec. 5 Dec. 25 Mar. 5	Daily. . Daily. Daily.
YOUTH DOVE	Sep. 12	Sep. 12	See DOVE in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		See DOVE in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
WOODCOCK	See Federal Regulations.		Woodcock hunting is allowed on any small game hunting day during legal woodcock season.

B. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. WMA USER PERMIT: All persons using this wildlife management area, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in

addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license and may be purchased wherever licenses are sold.

2. **CLOSED AREA:** The Waterfowl Sanctuary, enclosed by the East Sanctuary Road on the east, Anderson Tully Road on the south and the main levee on the west, is closed to hunting and scouting.

3. **BAG LIMITS:** Same as statewide bag limits except that during permit hunts on deer the legal buck bag limit is one per hunt.

4. **PERMIT STATIONS:** All visitors must obtain a DAILY VISITOR USE PERMIT card from a self-service permit station. Parts A and B of this permit must be legibly filled out before using the WMA. Part A of the permit must be deposited in the return box at a permit station before using the WMA. Part B must be displayed on the dash of the vehicle so that the name, address, and date are visible from outside the vehicle. Permits are invalid if not properly dated or if date has been changed. Before leaving the WMA, visitors must complete the reverse side of Part B of the permit by recording the number of animals harvested and deposit it in the return box at a permit station. It is the responsibility of the Area Manager and other Agency personnel to have permit cards completed. Daily visitor use permits must be turned in daily.

5. **DEER DATA COLLECTION:** All deer harvested must be checked at the WMA headquarters by the hunter who harvested them before leaving the WMA. If WMA personnel are not available to check the deer, the hunter is responsible for collecting and legibly recording ALL biological data. Instructions and equipment will be provided.

6. **DEER HUNTING PERMITS:** Deer hunting, except for the youth gun hunt and the January archery hunt, is allowed by special permit only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about permitted hunts. Additionally, hunters who harvest a 1½ year old or older doe during their permitted hunt will be eligible for a drawing for the two Special Gun hunts or for the special Primitive Weapon hunt.

7. **LEGAL BUCKS:** Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 16 inches OR one main beam length of at least 20 inches. For hunters 15 years of age or younger any antlered buck is a legal buck, except that during the Archery/Youth Gun season (Dec. 31 – Jan. 13) a youth hunter must harvest a buck with an inside spread of at least 16 inches OR one main beam length of at least 20 inches.

8. **SPECIAL BUCK TAGS:** For management purposes, a limited number of special buck tags which allow the harvest of 1 buck per year with at least one unforked antler will be available for hunters. It is the hunter's responsibility to check on the availability of Special Buck Tags. If available, tags may be acquired at the WMA headquarters or at the self-service deer check station. After harvest of a qualifying buck, hunters must retrieve a tag and attach it to the buck before leaving the WMA. An unforked antler is defined as: a main beam with no other points or broken points.

9. **WILD HOGS:** Wild hogs are classified as nuisance animals and hunters are encouraged to kill them at every lawful opportunity. The opportunity to kill hogs on WMAs is provided only for population control purposes and not for sport. Wild hogs may be killed during daylight hours only during any open WMA hunting season with weapons and ammunition legal for that season. Trapping (including snaring) of hogs is prohibited. Moving or transporting live hogs is prohibited.

10. **DOG RESTRICTIONS:** Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season.

11. **TURKEY HUNTING:** Turkey hunting on this WMA is closed.

12. **LEGAL WEAPONS:** Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting.

13. **WATERFOWL:** All waterfowl hunts, except for the waterfowl youth hunts, September teal season, and the post season light goose conservation order, are draw hunts only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about permitted hunts. Shooting hours end at 12 p.m. Waterfowl hunters must check-out by 1 p.m. except during the youth waterfowl hunt which shall run concurrent with the statewide waterfowl youth hunt. No boats, blinds, or decoys are to be left out overnight.

14. **DOVE:** A special youth dove hunt will be held on a designated field Sep. 12, 2015, from 2 p.m. - sunset. No dove hunting shall be allowed prior to the special youth dove hunt. Youth dove hunters must register at the WMA Headquarters on Sep. 12 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dove hunting will be allowed daily from Sep. 13 through the end of the first dove season, and on any small game hunting day during the legal dove season after Oct. 1.

15. **OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs:** ORVs/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails for hunting and fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for retrieval of harvested deer or hogs. During all WMA deer firearms seasons, no loaded shoulder fired weapons allowed within 100 feet of any road within Mahannah WMA, including ATV trails.

16. **HORSES:** Horseback riding is prohibited during WMA deer and turkey seasons. At all other times, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles and designated ATV trails. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hunting hours.

17. **CAMPING:** Camping is allowed in designated areas only. Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days. Camping equipment may not be left unattended for more than 24 hours. All camping equipment and garbage must be removed before final departure.

18. SCOUTING is allowed daily prior to Oct. 1 and on Saturdays only during permitted deer hunts EXCEPT that no scouting is allowed during the weekend of the youth deer hunt. Scouting also will be allowed on any small game hunting day. Only those persons drawn to hunt, and waterfowl hunters during waterfowl season, will be allowed on the area during permitted hunts.

19. BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. They are federally protected as a threatened subspecies. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

20. CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 36, will be enforced. For additional information, contact the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers at (662) 327-2142.

History: Updated October 2015

Source: MISS. CODE ANN. §§49-1-29, 49-4-4, and 49-5-13

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